India's nuclear policy in the wake of Pakistan's nuclear programme

1624. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:
SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:
DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY:
SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY:
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
DR. SANJAYA SINH:
SHRI VITHLRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:
SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:
SHRI JAGADISH JANI:
SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has a stockpile of about 15 nuclear weapons, according to western nuclear experts;

(b) whether the Foreign Secretary of Pakistan, Mr. Shahryar Khan, had admitted during his visit to U.S.A. that his country had the components and knowledge to assemble nuclear explosive device while urging the bush Administration to expert pressure on India to agree to a regional nuclear non-proliferation accord;

(c) whether the Pakistani Ambassador to the United States has confirmed Pak nuclear capability;

(d) the steps being taken to safeguard India's integrity and sovereignty against any Pakistani misadventure; and

(e) India's stand to participate in the 5 nation summit on a nuclear weapons-free zone in South Asia?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) Government are aware of press reports in this regard.

(d) Government constantly monitor all developments having a bearing on India's security and take necessary measures to safeguard it.

(e) Government are of the view that nuclear non-proliferation is a global issue and does not lend itself to a bilateral or a regional solution.

Visit by Indians to Central Asian

1625. SHRI RAJMOHAN GANDHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of official or non-official Indians who have visited the Central Asian Republics of the former Soviet Union during the last six months; and

(b) the steps taken to stengthen India's links with these Republics in the last six months?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) The following official delegations from India visited the Central Asian Republics of the former Soviet Union:

(i) Additional Secretary (ER), Ministry of External Affairs visited Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Kirghizstan in September 1991; (ii) Chairman, IFAI, visited Uzbekistan (Tashkent) in September 1991; (iii) A commercial delegation led by the Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce visited Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Kirghizstan in October 1991; and (iv) Minister of State for Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs & Public Distribution led an Indian delegation to Azerbaijan from 26 February to 1 March 1992.

A six-member non-official delegation led by Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, MP, visited Uzbekistan and Kazakhs-